1. Welcome and declarations of interest

1.1 Nicholas Coleridge welcomed Trustees to the meeting.

1.2 There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

2.1 The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 March 2022 were approved. There were no matters arising.

3. Directors report
3.1 The Trustees received a briefing from the Director on the activities of the museum over the period of March and April 2022. This included an overview of visitor numbers following the return to 7-day opening, as well as ongoing discussions with DCMS around the return of objects following the closure of Faberge: Romance to Revolution on 8 May. The recently opened Fashioning Masculinities: The Art of Menswear exhibition has received 41,000 visitors since 6 March and has been extremely well received.

3.2 Trustees were updated on developments with the Museum’s proposed new partnership with RIBA. The Board agreed that the Executive may serve notice on RIBA to terminate their lease of premises at the V&A and negotiate the notice period, severance payment and other exit arrangements.

3.3 Tim Reeve, Deputy Director & Chief Operating Officer, provided an update on the ongoing negotiations with the National Heritage Memorial Fund and other stakeholders regarding the future of the Stephenson Blake Collection within the Type Archive. Approval was granted to continue the negotiation strategy as presented.

3.4 Trustees were also updated on the progress at V&A East, including plans to mitigate the impact of any further delay to practical completion at the Storehouse on the Blythe House decant project. Trustees were shown an image of the V&A East Museum with the external cladding all but complete.

4. External Board effectiveness review

4.1 Trustees discussed the report produced by Socia LTD following an external Board effectiveness review that took place between December 2021 and March 2022. It was agreed that the Audit Committee should consider the suggested actions in more detail, and that the Audit Committee Chair would report back to the Board in due course.

5. Due diligence and gift acceptance policy

5.1 Annual approval to this policy was sought, following scrutiny from the Audit Committee in April. Jane Lawson, Director of Development, outlined one addition pertaining to clarity around the Museum’s approach to sanctioned individuals. The policy was approved.

6. Philanthropy discussion

6.1 A discussion was held regarding donor funding, including the philanthropy landscape for the museum sector

7. Any other Business

7.1 No further business was discussed.

Signed .......................................................... Nicholas Coleridge, Chair Date........................................